

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 088117
ORIGIN NODS-00

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S/S-O:RCASTRODALE
L:JMICHEL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE - 0121

S E C R E T STATE 088117

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, IS

SUBJECT: ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AND USE OF U.S. DEFENSE ARTICLES

REF: TEL AVIV 4577

1. FOLLOWING IS THE SELF-EXPLANATORY SECRET LETTER THAT
IS BEING SENT APRIL 5 TO THE CHAIRMEN OF THE SENATE COM-
MITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS AND SPEAKER OF HOUSE.

2. BEGIN TEXT. DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: ON BEHALF OF THE
SECRETARY, I AM PROVIDING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION
PURSUANT TO SECTION 3(E) OF THE ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT.

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAD RECEIVED ASSURANCES FROM THE
GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS OVER THE PAST
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TWO YEARS THAT NONE OF THE MILITARY EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED TO
CHRISTIAN FORCES IN LEBANON WAS PROVIDED TO ISRAEL THROUGH
OUR FOREIGN MILITARY SALES PROGRAM. HOWEVER, WE CON-
TINUED PERIODICALLY TO SEEK RENEWED ASSURANCES. IN
FEBRUARY, IN RESPONSE TO SUCH A REQUEST, ISRAEL INFORMED
THE DEPARTMENT, IN A LETTER CLASSIFIED SECRET, OF THE
FOLLOWING LIST OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED TO CHRISTIAN

FORCES IN LEBANON:

- 1) SPARE PARTS FOR BELL 205 HELICOPTERS.
- 2) 2,100 LAW ROCKETS.
- 3) 800,000 ROUNDS OF 5.56 AMMUNITION.
- 4) SPOTTING ROUNDS 0.50 (RECOILLESS GUNS).
- 5) 92 FLARE CLUSTER.
- 6) 11,000 DEFENSIVE GRENADES NO. 67.
- 7) AMMUNITION 155 MM.
- 8) 3,000 MINES NO. 15.
- 9) ENGINES FOR SHERMAN TANKS.

WE HAVE BEEN INVESTIGATING THIS REPORT AND ARE ENGAGED IN FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ISRAELIS. IN THIS CONTEXT, WE HAVE ASCERTAINED THAT THE NINTH ITEM IN THE ABOVE LIST APPARENTLY DID NOT INVOLVE ITEMS WHICH WERE SUBJECT TO END USE CONTROLS.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS MADE CLEAR TO ISRAEL THAT STRICT MEASURES MUST BE TAKEN TO PREVENT RECURRENCE OF UNAUTHORIZED TRANSFERS OF DEFENSE ARTICLES AND SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE UNITED STATES UNDER AGREED TRANSFER LIMITATIONS.

SINCERELY,

DOUGLAS J. BENNET, JR.

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS

END TEXT.

VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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